

Summer tips for your pet

Your pet may be in danger

On hot - or even warm - sunny days, the inside of a car heats up very quickly. On an 85-degree day, for example, even with the windows slightly open, the temperature inside a car can climb to 102 degrees in 10 minutes, to 120 in 30 minutes. On warmer days it will go even higher. Your cat or dog does not have sweat glands to help cool the body. With only hot air to breathe, your pet can quickly suffer brain damage or even die from heatstroke.

If your pet gets overheated you must lower the body temperature immediately!

Signs of heat stress include:

- Heavy panting
- Glazed eyes
- Rapid pulse
- Dizziness or lack of coordination
- Vomiting
- Deep red or purple tongue

If your pet shows any signs of heat stress:

- Get your pet into shade
- Apply cool, not cold, water all over its body
- Apply ice packs or cold towels only to head, neck or chest
- Let your pet drink small amounts of cool water or lick ice cubes or ice cream
- Take your pet to a veterinarian right away – it could save its life

Pursuant to Clark County Ordinance **8.11.070(6)** or Vancouver Municipal Code **8.24.180(5)** Cruelty to Animals which reads: Confine an animal within or on a motor vehicle or other enclosure or structure when unattended and under such conditions as may endanger the health and well-being of the animal. Such conditions include, but are not limited to, dangerous temperature, lack of food or water, and confinement with a vicious animal.

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